

Mideast for service to their country. We will do everything we can to stop the President of the United States from cutting educational funding at the very time that our people are deploying in the Mideast in order to finance the tax cuts for the rich that he wants to push through this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that we will develop a bipartisan consensus that this is a very bad idea to cut the impact aid funding that is going to so many heavily service-dependent economies in our region. If we do so, it will strike a blow for the men and women and their children who ought to have their schools protected at the time we are in the Mideast.

SUPPORTING THE PRESIDENTIAL STIMULUS PACKAGE

(Mr. REHBERG asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. REHBERG. Mr. Speaker, 2 years ago the Americans got a taste of tax relief with a promise that one day they might see an end to the marriage penalty, an end to death tax, a reduction of tax rates, and an increase in child tax credits.

With today's economy struggling and with the price of gasoline and heating oil going through the roof, Americans need more than promises, more than a mere taste of tax relief. Americans are looking for Congress to transform the temporary tax relief of 2001 into something permanent.

Mr. Speaker, I have always believed that the best way to stimulate the economy is not with more government spending but with more people spending. You cannot improve the well-being of families by spending more on government programs and bureaucracies. You can by ending the marriage penalty, killing the death tax, increasing child credits and reducing burdensome tax rates. It is time to put tax dollars back into the hands of the people who need it most.

Join me in supporting the President's economic stimulus package.

MIGUEL ESTRADA FOR FEDERAL JUDGE

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of Miguel Estrada who has been nominated by President Bush to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Estrada has an outstanding record. He graduated magna cum laude in 1986 from Harvard Law School where he was editor of the Harvard Law Review. He has clerked for the U.S. Supreme Court and served in a high position for the Manhattan U.S. Attorney's Office. He has practiced constitutional law and argued 15 cases before the Supreme Court.

Miguel Estrada's credentials prove that he is ready to be a Federal judge.

As the Washington Post said in a February 17 editorial, "The arguments against Mr. Estrada's confirmation range from the unpersuasive to the offensive." Some say he is too young or lacks judicial experience, and some have even disgracefully inferred that he is not a real Hispanic.

It is time for these shameful antics against Miguel Estrada to end, as he is well-qualified to be a Federal judge. I stand beside the President in support of Mr. Estrada.

CONDEMNING THE OSCAR NOMINATION OF ROMAN POLANSKI

(Mr. PUTNAM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PUTNAM. Mr. Speaker, just about every day the media glorifies and offers a platform for actors and actresses who speak out on the great issues of the day: war, environment, human rights. These social icons usually stress that they are taking these stands for our children; and rightfully so, cause we should all strive to be models for future generations.

That is why I was puzzled to learn that the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences has nominated Roman Polanski for an Oscar as best director. Mr. Speaker, he fled the United States a quarter of a century ago to escape sentencing after having pled guilty to the rape of a 13-year-old girl. In fact, if he returns to the United States to receive his Oscar, he will be apprehended by the LAPD.

The Academy, however, is in good company with their nomination. The French have also nominated Mr. Polanski and are recognizing him by bestowing their Cesar Award for his work.

Mr. Speaker, there is something fundamentally wrong with the value system present in Hollywood today when the Academy would honor a pedophile who fled the country rather than face sentencing. It is times like these when it becomes brutally apparent just how out of touch Hollywood is with mainstream American values.

HELPING WOMEN COMBAT HEART DISEASE

(Mrs. CAPITO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, as many of us know, February has been designated American Heart Month. Too many Americans are suffering from heart disease, especially women. It is a little known fact that heart disease is a leading cause of deaths among women, with over 370,000 deaths every year. In fact, heart disease kills more women than all forms of cancer combined.

Sadly, 1 in 25 women will die from breast cancer but 1 in 2 will die from heart disease. In my home State of West Virginia, heart disease statistics are staggering. Thirty-one percent of all deaths were from heart disease in the year 2000.

This month the United States Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Health, and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute have made it their mission to educate women about heart disease, because regardless of their age, it is never too late to combat heart disease.

A woman's risk of heart disease starts to rise gradually between the age of 40 to 60, but heart disease develops gradually and can start at a very young age. Older women need to take action to prevent and control the risk factors for heart disease. Regardless of our ages, it is never too late for women to combat heart disease. We should be spreading that message today and every day.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HUMAN CLONING BAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. STUPAK) for reintroducing H.R. 534, the Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2003.

The American public needs to be made aware of the political spin and propaganda that the so-called medical research community is using to deceive us. The cloned sheep, Dolly, was created by the cloning procedure called somatic cell nuclear transfer.

Some want to use this procedure for research on humans which they now call "therapeutic cloning." As the debate has intensified, what was called human cloning is now referred to as "nuclear transplantation." I ask my fellow Americans not to be deceived by their words which are designed to be politically correct.

Those who want to perform therapeutic cloning claim that the future holds cures to many of the diseases that ail our human society. This argument plays to the hearts and minds of